

Serventy and Whittell (*Handbook*, 1951, p. 233) state that the haunts of the Naretha Parrot are "the desert sheoak (*Casuarina decaisneana*) country that fringes the western edge of the Nullarbor plain." This brief description gives an erroneous impression of the habitat. The dominant trees in the habitat of this species are Acacias, most often myall (*Acacia sowdenii*), but narrow-leaved mulga (*A. aneura*) in some places. These trees are up to 20 feet high but the average height is about 12 feet. Much less common are false sandalwoods (*Myoporum platycarpum*) and *Eremophila alterifolia*. The sheoak, which is up to about 30 feet high, is *Casuarina cristata* and not *decaisneana*. There is little in common in the general appearance of these species. The casuarina is actually a scarce component of the habitat and occurs as scattered small groves and isolated trees. Whitlock, the discoverer of the Naretha Parrot, pointed out that "the clumps of casuarinas occupy only very small areas" (*Emu*, 21: 182). However, the sheoak is certainly the most important tree from the bird's point of view, as it appears to be the only species present in which hollows form.

There is a shrub stratum of saltbush and bluebush (*Atriplex vesicarium* and *Kochia sedifolia*). Ground cover consists mostly of grass (*Stipa* spp.) and xerophytic herbs (*Bassia* spp. and *Salsola kali*). The birds were feeding amongst the ground cover, most of which was dead. In some places where occasional parrots were seen the only ground cover was some sparse short dead *Stipa*, and there was much bare soil.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Royce for plant identifications.

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A Record of the Euro near Northam.—One of the most interesting of the large kangaroos is the Euro (*Macropus robustus* Gould). As this animal is adapted for survival at low water intake levels, it is usually found as a plentiful species in restricted rainfall areas uninhabitable to most other macropods. It is thus of interest to record the occurrence of a colony of the Euro at Mokine, 55 miles from Perth, in an extensive forest of wandoo (*Eucalyptus redunca*) and powder-bark (*E. accedens*).

In July 1957 it was learnt of the occurrence of Euros in the area from Mr. V. R. Broomhall who had shot one animal on his property early in 1954 and seen a second in July 1957. Both occurrences have been previously reported in the Western Australian Fisheries Department Bulletin for Honorary Fauna Wardens, 1957, 4: 37.

Four visits were made to the area during the following months, August 1957, April, May and June 1958, in an attempt to obtain further information. On June 14, 1958, a dead adult female Euro was examined. It had been killed by a car on the Clackline-Spencers Brook Road, half way up the Mokine Hill, approximately four days earlier, and was in an advanced stage of decomposition. The fur was short and of a light tan colour with grey markings and appendages. The country immediately surrounding has been cleared, so it is presumed that the animal was travelling between uncleared areas. Later on the same day two kangaroos were seen at a distance of

150 yards, moving up a breakaway in wandoo forest. Both of these appeared to be Euros, but positive identification could not be made. Other macropods definitely occurring in the area are the Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus ocydromus* Gould) and the Brush Wallaby (*Protemnodon irma* (Jourdan)).

As information on the geographical distribution of the Euro is sparse, it is not definitely known whether this record represents a definite range extension or a long-established colony, perhaps relict, hitherto undetected by naturalists. However, the observation is important as the group is in need of taxonomic revision. It is surprising to note that this is the first observation on the Euro to appear in this journal. The writer will be interested to hear of further records of this marsupial.

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Mammals and Reptiles of King's Park.—This is a supplementary note to the account of the fauna and flora of King's Park which appeared in the *W.A. Naturalist*, 6 (2): 25. Because of their nocturnal habits the mammal fauna of the Park is rarely noticed, the Little Bat (*Eptesicus pumilus*) and Gould's Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus gouldi*) may be seen flitting between the trees at dusk but the first being small in size usually escapes observation. However, material received at the W.A. Museum from time to time indicates the presence of the Common Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), whilst depredations in adjacent fowl-yards led to the donation of Chuditches or Spotted Native Cats (*Dasyurus geoffroi fortis*) in June 1921 (Rokeby-road), March 1929 (Mounts Bay-road) and November 1930 (Emu Brewery). Smaller forms such as the Mundarda or Pigmy Possum (*Cercartetus eoneinus*) and the Noolbenger or Honey Possum (*Tarsipes spenserae*) are most likely present as a specimen of the latter was found drowned in a washtub in a house at the top of Nicholson-road in March 1939.

A number of animals must have been introduced by people who brought them from the country from time to time. In this category can be named the Common Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) and the Echidna or Native Porcupine (*Tachyglossus aculeatus ineptus*) liberated there by the Museum some years ago and perhaps the Dalgite or Rabbit-eared Bandicoot (*Maerotis lagotis*) which had been run over by a car in August 1926 in Mounts Bay-road.

Among the reptiles the Dugite (*Demansia affinis*), the Tiger Snake (*Notechis seutatus occidentalis*), the Whip Snake (*Demansia psammophis*) and the Little Whip Snake (*Denisonia gouldii*) have been recorded among the snakes. Small Goannas (*Varanus* sp.) have been seen and mistaken for snakes and so also have, because of the rustling they make as they move away, Bobtail Lizards (*Traehysaurus rugosus*), the Adelaide Dragon (*Amphibolurus adelaidensis*), the King's Skink (*Egernia kingii*) and the small diurnal fly-catching skink, *Ablepharus*, to mention but a few of the regular residents.